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Make Your Farm a Tourist Destination SC Agritourism Association to Host Open Meetings in August

COLUMBIA – Are you looking for new sources of revenue or more community engagement for your farm? Want to meet fellow agritourism participants? The South Carolina Agritourism Association is hosting two Summer Spotlight events to help association members and other farmers learn about opportunities in agritourism.

Agritourism is booming in South Carolina, with more than 413 farms offering everything from corn mazes to goat yoga. These special August events offer fresh tourism ideas and discussion of hot topics like liability insurance, as well as an opportunity to network.

The Aug. 7 event will be held in the Pee Dee at Clarendon Club, a hunting lodge that offers a range of entertainment and outdoor activities, while the Aug. 21 event is in Upstate South Carolina at Chattooga Belle Farm, a destination farm, distillery, and event venue. Admission to each event is free to SC Agritourism Association members and \$10 for non-members. Both events include lunch.

Pee Dee: Aug. 7, 10 a.m.—2 p.m. — Presentation topics will include Insurance and Agritourism, Conservation & Camps, and Connecting SCDNR with Farmers. RSVP to clarendon.club@outlook.com. Clarendon Club: 1219 Dingle Pond Road, Summerton, SC.

Upstate: Aug. 21, 10 a.m –2 p.m. — With a spectacular view of rolling hills and mountains, we will see Chattooga Belle Farm's u-pick fruit farm, visit the farm store, learn about the event barn, visit the distillery, learn about their operation, and much more. Includes lunch at Belle's Bistro. RSVP to info@strawberryhillusa.com. Chattooga Belle Farm: 454 Damascus Church Road, Long Creek, SC.

About the South Carolina Agritourism Association:

Founded in 2014, the SC Agritourism Association handles promotions, marketing, outreach, education, and advocacy for the state's agritourism industry. For more information, visit <u>scagritourism.org</u>.

About the South Carolina Department of Agriculture:

Agribusiness is South Carolina's largest industry, with more than 24,000 farms and a \$41.7 billion economic impact each year. The SC Department of Agriculture promotes and nurtures South Carolina agriculture and its related businesses while assuring the safety and security of the buying public.

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